



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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16 MARCH 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~



DAILY BRIEF
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1. Congo

The long-awaited government campaign to seal off the Congo's north-eastern borders got under way yesterday. A mixed column of mercenaries and Congolese troops under an able South African, Col. Hoare, is pushing up the road from Bunia to Mahagi and the Ugandan frontier. (See map.)

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2. Vietnam

The Saigon scene was quiet today, but the tempo promises to pick up before the week is out.

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The Armed Forces Council meeting, scheduled yesterday to discuss possible command changes, was apparently postponed.

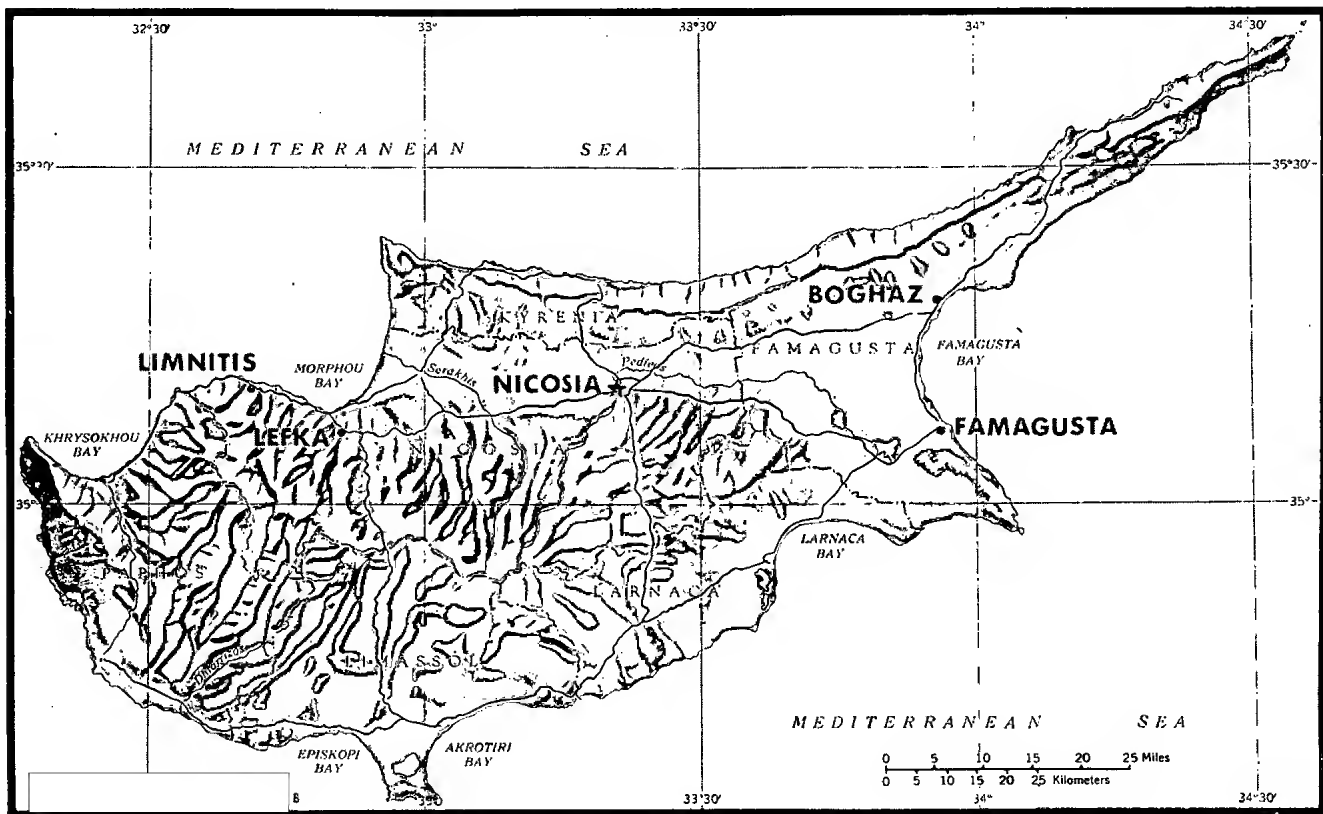
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3. Latin America

Latin American Communists

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Party leaders are now emphasizing the need for interparty coordination. Also, they are increasing cooperation with non-Communist "liberation" movements.

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Plans are now going forward for a Latin American "solidarity with Cuba" conference. Details are at Annex.

4. Cyprus

Greek and Turkish Cypriots are still firing on one another near Lefka in the western part of the island. (See map.) Communal tensions are building up elsewhere.

Turkey has reacted characteristically, ordering a number of highly visible military moves designed to intimidate the Greek Cypriots.

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5. Israel

Small-scale fire fights between Israeli and Syrian border guards have become an almost daily occurrence. Most of these incidents are taking place in a section of the northern border where Israel is trying to set up a buffer zone to protect its Lake Tiberias pumping station. Tensions are mounting and so is the danger that one of these local affairs may get out of hand.

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ANNEX

Latin American Communist Activity

Last November's Havana meeting, held under exceptionally tight security, was an effort to end divisions that have long plagued Latin American Communists. Subsequent press statements by various party leaders have stressed the importance of coordinated effort in place of "piecemeal" revolutionary tactics. In December, Cuba's Che Guevara and Chile's pro-Castro Senator Allende called for formation of a Latin American "internationale."

The new generation of pro-Castro Communists has caused much of the friction within the Latin American parties. Their militancy, patterned after the Chinese Communists, had alienated them from their old-line, Moscow-oriented comrades.

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How well the various parties will carry out this new strategy is not yet clear. Their chronic tendencies toward fractionalization will be difficult to overcome. Nevertheless, the evidence at this point suggests that a rise in Communist strength and effectiveness throughout Latin America is in store.

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